

Commission and will receive copies of all documents filed by the applicant and by every one of the intervenors. An intervenor can file for rehearing of any Commission order and can petition for court review of any such order.

However, an intervenor must submit copies of comments or any other filing it makes with the Commission to every other intervenor in the proceeding, as well as an original and 14 copies with the Commission.

A person does not have to intervene, however, in order to have comments considered. A person, instead, may submit two copies of comments to the Secretary of the Commission. Commenters will be placed on the Commission's environmental mailing list, will receive copies of environmental documents and will be able to participate in meetings associated with the Commission's environmental review process. Commenters will not be required to serve copies of filed documents on all other parties. However, commenters will not receive copies of all documents filed by other parties or issued by the Commission and will not have the right to seek rehearing or appeal the Commission's final order to a federal court.

The Commission will consider all comments and concerns equally, whether filed by commenters or those requesting intervenor status.

Take further notice that, pursuant to the authority contained in and subject to the jurisdiction conferred upon the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission by Sections 7 and 15 of the Natural Gas Act and the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, a hearing will be held without further notice before the Commission or its designee on this application if no motion to intervene is filed within the time required herein, if the Commission on its own review of the matter finds that a grant of the certificate is required by the public convenience and necessity. If a motion for leave to intervene is timely filed, or if the Commission on its own motion believes that a formal hearing is required, further notice of such hearing will be duly given.

Under the procedure herein provided for, unless otherwise advised, it will be unnecessary for Columbia to appear or be represented at the hearing.

David P. Boergers,
Acting Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. RP97-287-012]

El Paso Natural Gas Company; Notice of Proposed Changes in FERC Gas Tariff

February 3, 1998.

Take notice that on January 30, 1998, El Paso Natural Gas Company (El Paso) tendered for filing as part of its FERC Gas Tariff, Second Revised Volume No. 1-A, the following tariff sheet to become effective February 1, 1998:

Twelfth Revised Sheet No. 30

El Paso states that the above tariff sheet is being filed to implement two negotiated rate contracts pursuant to the Commission's Statement of Policy on Alternatives to Traditional Cost-of-Service Ratemaking for Natural Gas Pipelines and Regulation of Negotiated Transportation Services of Natural Gas Pipelines issued January 31, 1996 at Docket Nos. RM95-6-000 and RM96-7-000.

Any person desiring to protest said filing should file a protest with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426, in accordance with Section 385.211 of the Commission's Rules and Regulations. All such protests must be filed in accordance with Section 154.210 of the Commission's regulations. Protests will be considered by the Commission in determining the appropriate action to be taken, but will not serve to make protestants parties to the proceeding. Copies of this filing are on file with the Commission and are available for public inspection in the Public Reference Room.

David P. Boergers,

Acting Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. RP98-123-000]

Equitrans, L.P.; Notice of Proposed Changes in FERC Gas Tariff

February 3, 1998.

Take notice that on January 29, 1998, Equitrans, L.P. (Equitrans) tendered for filing as part of its FERC Gas Tariff, First Revised Volume No. 1, revised tariff sheets reflecting a rate change from

currently effective rates and other changes in its tariff to the limited extent necessary to: (1) Implement the recovery of the stranded gathering reservation surcharge from all firm transportation customers under Rate Schedules NOFT, FTS, and STS-1 and to adjust the level of the surcharge based on the level of billing determinants for all firm transportation services; and (2) incorporate revised tariff language which gives transportation customers under Rate Schedule STS-1 the right to release their capacity through Equitrans' capacity release program and to receive service form all receipt, delivery, and pooling points on the Equitrans system on a secondary basis.

Equitrans states that in deriving the proposed stranded gathering surcharge gathering costs and the same reservation billing determinants and usage determinants which were reflected in Equitrans' RP97-346 rate filing. The only change which Equitrans states it proposes is the recalculation of the surcharge to eliminate storage billing determinants and include Section 7(c) transportation billing determinants. Equitrans is proposing a reservation-based gathering surcharge for firm transportation.

Equitrans states that this filing makes no change in the level of base tariff rates for any Equitrans' services—which rates are currently effective subject to refund and the outcome of a hearing in Docket No. RP97-346-000.

Equitrans requests that this filing be consolidated with its on-going rate case in Docket No. RP97-346. Equitrans also requests a shortened suspension period to permit the proposed level of the stranded gathering surcharge to take effect on March 1, 1998.

Any person desiring to protest this filing should file a motion to intervene or protest with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, N.E., Washington, DC 20426, in accordance with Sections 385.214 and 385.211 of the Commission's Rules and Regulations. All such motions or protests must be filed in accordance with Section 154.210 of the Commission's Rules and Regulations. Protests will be considered by the Commission in determining the appropriate action to be taken, but will not serve to make protestants parties to the proceeding. Any person wishing to become a party must file a motion to intervene. Copies of this filing are on file with the Commission and are